

**Remarks at a Tree Planting  
Ceremony in Honor of Arbor Day**  
*April 29, 2005*

**The President.** Glad you all are here. Ready, Mr. Secretary?

**Secretary of Agriculture Mike Johanns.** I'm ready.

**The President.** First of all, I'm honored—we're honored to be here with the Secretary of Agriculture as well as Marshal Case, who is head of The American Chestnut Foundation. We are planting an American chestnut tree here at the White House. This is the 133d year of Arbor Day. Our message is to our fellow citizens: Plant trees. It's good for the economy, and it's good for the environment.

As well Marshal informs me that The American Chestnut Foundation has worked very closely with the Agriculture Department to coming up with a disease-resistant strain of the American chestnut. And he says we're making good progress and that one day the American chestnut, which had been wiped out by blight, will be coming back. And this is our little part to help it come back.

So, Mr. Secretary, are you prepared?

**Secretary Johanns.** I am ready. Let's—

**The President.** A man known for shoveling a lot of things. *[Laughter]*

**Secretary Johanns.** Exactly.

**The President.** Ready to go?

**Secretary Johanns.** Yes, I am ready.

**The President.** All right, let's do it.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1 p.m. on the North Lawn at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Marshal T. Case, president and chief executive officer, The American Chestnut Foundation. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

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**Digest of Other  
White House Announcements**

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The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

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**April 23**

In the morning, at the Bush Ranch in Crawford, TX, the President had an intelligence briefing.

**April 25**

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

Later in the morning, the President welcomed Crown Prince Abdullah of Saudi Arabia to the Bush Ranch. Later, he met with the Crown Prince.

In the afternoon, the President had lunch with the Crown Prince.

The White House announced that the President will welcome Prime Minister Konstandinos Karamanlis of Greece to the White House on May 20.

The President announced his designation of C. David Welch as a member of the Presidential delegation to attend the funeral services of former President Ezer Weizman of Israel on April 26.

**April 26**

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he traveled to Galveston, TX, where, upon arrival, he met with USA Freedom Corps volunteer Dorothy Paterson.

In the afternoon, the President returned to Washington, DC.

The President announced his intention to nominate Sandra L. Pack to be Assistant Secretary of the Treasury (Management) and, upon appointment, to designate her as Chief Financial Officer.

The President announced his intention to nominate Randal Quarles to be an Under Secretary of the Treasury (Domestic Finance).

The President announced his intention to nominate John J. Sullivan to be General Counsel of the Department of Commerce.

The President announced his intention to nominate James Philip Terry to be Chairman of the Board of Veterans' Appeals.

The President announced his intention to nominate John M. Reich to be Director of the Office of Thrift Supervision at the Department of the Treasury.

The President announced his intention to designate F. Duane Ackerman as Chairman

of the President's National Security Telecommunications Advisory Committee.

The President announced his intention to redesignate Patricia F. Russo as Vice Chairman of the President's National Security Telecommunications Advisory Committee.

The President announced his intention to redesignate Steven J. Law as a member of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation.

#### **April 27**

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he met with Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld.

In the afternoon, the President met with Republican Members of the House of Representatives to discuss legislative priorities.

In the evening, at a private residence, the President made remarks at a National Republican Senatorial Committee reception.

The President announced his intention to nominate Molly Hering Bordonaro to be Ambassador to Malta.

The President announced his intention to nominate Donald E. Booth to be Ambassador to Liberia.

The President announced his intention to nominate Joseph A. Mussomeli to be Ambassador to Cambodia.

The President announced his intention to nominate David Horton Wilkins to be Ambassador to Canada.

The President announced his intention to nominate Julie Finley for the rank of Ambassador during her tenure of service as U.S. Representative to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

The President announced his intention to nominate Shara L. Aranoff to be Commissioner of the U.S. International Trade Commission.

The President announced his intention to nominate Richard J. Griffin to be Assistant Secretary of State for Diplomatic Security.

The President announced his intention to designate Deborah A. Price as Acting Assistant Secretary of Education for Legislative and Congressional Affairs.

The President announced his intention to nominate Dennis P. Walsh to be a member of the National Labor Relations Board.

#### **April 28**

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

Later in the morning, in the Oval Office, the President met with President Martin Torrijos of Panama.

The President announced his intention to nominate Kevin F. Sullivan to be Assistant Secretary of Education for Communications and Outreach.

The President announced his intention to nominate Richard L. Skinner to be Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security.

The President announced his intention to designate Bruce N. Crandlemire as Acting Inspector General of the U.S. Agency for International Development.

#### **April 29**

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. He then traveled to Falls Church, VA. Later, he returned to Washington, DC.

In the afternoon, the President had lunch with Vice President Dick Cheney.

During the day, in the Oval Office, the President met with editors of "The Papers of George Washington."

The White House announced that the President will welcome Nigerian President and Chairman of the African Union Olusegun Obasanjo to the White House on May 5.

The President announced his intention to nominate Rodney E. Hood to be a member of the National Credit Union Administration Board.

The President declared an emergency in New Hampshire and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by record snow on March 11–12.

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### **Nominations Submitted to the Senate**

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The following list does not include promotions of members of the Uniformed Services, nominations